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FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

Memorandum

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FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

TO : Bryant L. VanBrakle, Secretary DATE: November 18, 2003

FROM : Rebecca F. Dye, Commissioner

SUBJECT : Petition No. P8-03 - Petition of BAX Global, Inc., for Rulemaking

On October 14, 2003, I met with Ms. Therese Groff, General Counsel for BAX Global, Mr. Tom Donahue, Vice President of Ocean Services for BAX Global, Ms. Mary Jo Flanagan, General Counsel of the Brink's Company, as well as Mr. Ed Sheppard, Mr. Richard Bank, and Mr. Ashley Craig of the law firm Thompson Coburn at their request to receive their views on BAX Global's petition to the Federal Maritime Commission. The petition requests that the Commission initiate a rulemaking to permit BAX Global, a non-vessel-operating common carrier, and other similarly situated entities to enter confidential service contracts as "ocean common carriers" with their shipper-clients for the ocean transportation of cargo.

Ms. Flanagan, Ms. Groff, and Mr. Donahue discussed their business operations generally and explained that BAX Global is a subsidiary of the Brink's Company, a global armored car and security business. BAX Global is a supply chain management company providing its customers with complete inventory and transportation services. Mr. Donehue reported that BAX's customers want to sign confidential service contracts with his company to prevent their competitors from knowing their ocean shipping rates. BAX Global also wants to operate on a "level playing field" that would allow their company to offer its customers complete transportation contracts including the air, rail, truck and ocean segments of the transportation. Currently, BAX cannot include its ocean transportation rates in its contracts since the Shipping Act of 1984, as amended by the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 1998, requires that these rates be published. The petitioners also stated that the cost of tariff publishing must be passed on to their customers.

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